

**ST. BERNARD CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2009**

The regular meeting of the St. Bernard City Council was held Thursday, January 22, 2009 in Council Chambers.

President of Council, Mr. Curtis Walden – The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call showed that all members were present: Mr. Tobergte, Mr. Peck, Mrs. Bedinghaus, Mrs. Brickweg, Ms. Hausfeld, Mr. Meier and Mr. Zix.

Mrs. Brickweg made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Mrs. Bedinghaus seconded the motion. Council agreed 7-0.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR, Mr. Burkhardt – I have no report tonight but I would like to go into Executive Session tonight to discuss purchase of property.

AUDITOR, Mr. St. Clair – Absent.

DIRECTOR OF LAW, Mrs. Kate Bedinghaus – I don't really have a report but I would just like to start out my first Council meeting of the year in quite some time by thanking members of Council for the cards and gift certificates, they certainly make dinners easier for a couple nights.

Also, I would like to thank the members of the Administration, especially Mayor Burkhardt and the Safety Director Rodney Chatman for their patience, understanding and cooperation in working with me over the past several months. Also, I would like to thank the Service Department, who although I never saw them, I believe may have taken care of getting our trash to the street on more than one occasion.

Lastly, as many of you may know, the past 8 or 9 months have been quite a challenge for my family and I, and while it is not over yet, I would still just like to thank the many people of this community for their well wishes, cards, offers of help with the kids, and meals. Without our family, friends and the generous people of this community, I am not quite sure what would have happened to our family over the last year. Again, thank you.

TREASURER, Mr. Sipe – No report.

SAFETY DIRECTOR, Mr. Chatman – Tonight we did have a "Block Watch" kick off meeting. I believe we are full steam ahead. I was very pleased with the turnout and continue to be encouraged by the interest. There will be more information continually to come out of this office in regards to that.

Secondly, last Council meeting I believe Patty may have asked a question or this came up in discussion about having a report at Council meetings on Police reports. The formalization of that is in process. We will have that as a regular part of Council meetings in the near future where we will be having some type of general synopsis of what has been going on with the Police Dept. like we do with the Fire Dept. Ironically at the time of that conversation, St. Bernard, like many communities throughout Hamilton

County, was dealing with being victimized by a band of thugs that were going around robbing fast food establishments. We were hit twice and almost every municipality around here was hit. For obvious reasons, when things of this nature take place there are some things I'm privy to report and some things not privy to report. There is some likelihood that when we formalize this process there is some information that is sensitive or necessary to keep quiet that we will keep quiet.

I do want to commend our Police Dept. however, it's not just a cliché, they did go what they would say is outside the box, as a result of the victimization we received in the Subway robbery and the Pizza Hut robbery. They attacked the issue from all sides, including going to the businesses in that area and talking with them and trying to educate them in ways to keep safe. We changed the way we handle day to day patrol tactics in order to better prepare ourselves if these idiots come back. Last Monday they did come back. They did commit an armed robbery and kidnapping at our fish place, that's Long John Silvers. However, based upon all the things that we did in changing and preparing ourselves for what has been taking place, we have kind of had the golden light of law enforcement shining on us right now as all of these municipalities in Hamilton County are very happy with what we did. We were able to apprehend all four of them. We got the gun recovery, the money, the mask and everything else and I was very pleased at the work that our Police Dept. did in going outside the box and keeping our business establishments safe and our citizens safe. Probably at the next Council Meeting you'll get another one of my special recommendation type letters of recognition. Again they did an excellent job. They encountered a very dangerous situation. They encountered four young men, who when they committed this armed robbery, literally seconds after they committed the robbery, made all of the necessary apprehensions without anyone being injured and I'm quite confident that there will be a lot of Cities and Municipalities in Hamilton County looking towards us to help them close their cases.

SERVICE DIRECTOR, Mr. Stegman – On Monday January 26th, the arborist will be in town working with me on the tree program.

The roof bid opening was Wednesday, January 21st and we are looking them over to see who will be awarded the contract. I hope to have all the answers back to Council by the next COW. If any Council person would like to see the bids please feel free to stop by and see me.

Tonight there was going to be an Ordinance on the table for additional appropriation but Walt had asked me today to hold off until more budget items were needed or something else was needed instead of one thing being on the Ordinance. So people know why I need additional monies so early in the year is we had over \$24,000 in insurance monies come in on Dec. 16th of last year for damages to City properties caused by the storm and no money was appropriated for this years' budget so that is why this needs to be a new appropriation to get the money back out of the General Fund to pay these invoices.

Part of the damage was the fencing over the dugout at upper Ross Park and a 60ft. telephone pole that was taken down by a tree. Eads Fence Co. was awarded the work to fix the fencing and Capital Electric was awarded the replacement of the pole and the electric work. Eads Fence Co. started Tuesday this week because baseball season is just around the bend.

Things that are being worked on so people know they are being handled, in front of Wendy's on Vine Street, MSD is going to start working on the void in the street. The Water Works is going to work on Orchard St. for a water break in a line, there is a street light down in Vine St. that duke Energy is going to fix and most important the speed bump at Jackson and Greenlee will be fixed soon. I have been working on this for a couple of weeks with the Water Works and it looks like it will be done in a couple of days. I would like to be put on the COW agenda to talk to Council about the roof bids.

TAX COMMISSIONER, Mr. Geiser – (read by Mr. Burkhardt) We are in the process of finalizing the tax returns and updating the website for the 2008 tax year returns. The tax returns should go out in the mail next week. The online tax tool is up and running. We will have a link to the internet site on the City's website.

This past week, Chief Moeller and myself attended a morning seminar concerning the enforcement of tax codes. The presentation was sponsored by the Mariemont Police Dept. with speakers from the Ohio Dept. of Taxation and the Cincinnati Police. The conference dealt with issues utilized to enforce tax codes and the establishment of a CERT program which is a "Code Enforcement Response Team."

The Civil Service Commission notified Mayor Burkhardt and myself that they are waiting for the approval of Council before they begin the process to allow the hiring of a Deputy Tax Commissioner. I would like to put this on the agenda for the next COW.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE, Mr. Zix – No report.

SAFETY, Ms. Hausfeld – This was brought to my attention as a safety tip. If you have an alarm on your car that looks something like this (displayed car alarm) it's called a smart alarm. You can use this for different alerting tips. Keep this alarm on you or next to your bed at night in case you have a medical emergency or in case you have something abnormal like possibly someone breaking in your house or something. By setting this alarm off, you will not only alert your family and your neighbors to a problem, but hopefully one of them guys will step up and call the Police or the Fire Dept. and get the problem taken care of as soon as possible.

SERVICE, Mr. Tobergte – Since the Administration decided not to renew Mrs. Middendorf's contract, I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her years of service to our community.

Also I received an email from Mr. Newberry expressing his desire to bring the Soap Box Derby back again this year. If possible he would like to have one in May and then come back again in the fall. I would like to put this on the agenda for the next COW meeting.

I would like to make a motion to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss the purchase of property.

Ms. Hausfeld – I'll second that.

Mr. Walden – We have a motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to go into Executive Session after the regular portion of the meeting to discuss the purchase of property. Motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, Mr. Meier – Last night the CIC held their monthly meeting and I want to go over a few things from that meeting. Tonight we're going to have Resolution No. 1, 2009 that we're going to be voting on. What this is, is a Resolution of the City expressing the City's support for the CIC's participation in the Heritage Ohio Main Street Program. This is something that Mr. Kanters brought to the City and it is designed for the revitalization of Main Street.

Other things from the meeting last night that 501.C3., basically what that is, is that we have the CIC has been approved as a non-profit so they do not have to pay FITW on their activities. Also the business plan for 2009 was voted on and approved last night and one of the things that was brought up at the meeting and Mr. Kanters in going to be working on is putting together a newsletter so that, there's a lot of interest in what's going on in the CIC and it would be a good way of getting the information out to people so they have an idea of what's going on, who's on it, what the activities are and things of that nature.

In other projects that have been going on, there's been a lot of talk about the purchase of the Imwalle property and doing some conversions on that. That's not feasible so that deal is dead. It would cost too much to convert that property into what we originally discussed so that's a dead deal, we're not moving forward with that and the representatives of Imwalle's were informed of that earlier this week.

On the Mitchell and Vine, the fish place that's coming in there, there are some plumbing repairs that are being completed and once that is done they can move forward with opening of that.

At Bertus and Vine, there has been discussion with a representative of Christ Hospital. That's a possibility of a medical arts type of building going in there so those discussions are continuing. There is a sign that is up there that kind of has a graphic description of what the building may look like and that is generating some interest as well.

On Nu-Maid, I know a lot of people are anxious to hear what's going on. There's been reports, talks with Graeters', Mr. Kanters is waiting to hear back from Graeters'. That's kind of up in the air as well.

On the NSF program, that's the Neighborhood Stabilization Fund, Mr. Wiedman gave a nice report to us. Basically those funds are still tied up with Hamilton County. They have to decide how they're going to allocate them, how they're going to be disbursed. We're probably not going to see anything for a little while on that. Gerry and Mr. Moeller have done a really good job on putting together an action plan for us on what to do with it and how those funds can be used. The idea is that if the funds would come to the City, the City could acquire and rehab the properties and then sell them to the CIC for that acquisition cost. By doing that those funds would go back to the program and they could be reused so we're a little bit ahead of some of the other communities in understanding how to use that and the other communities lack of planning or foresight seems to be one of the things that are hold up the distribution of those funds.

The Vine St. Business Assoc., they're going to be having a meeting next week. I think Peggy is more involved with that so she may have more details than what I have so I'm not going to go into that.

Next Thursday, what I'd like to do is have a Public Improvements Meeting at 6:30p.m., prior to the COW and one of the things I'd like to discuss is how the City can participate in acquiring property, whether it's for rehab or resale. I would like to get that discussion going because one of the other things we talked about last night at the meeting was utilizing the property. Everybody referred to it as the Norm Miller property on Vine St. as a neighborhood center that we can use to promote the City, whether it is for building or for rehabbing property or for rental property or for listings. There is talk of having a City wide open house at some point. Probably a good time to do that is in June during National Homeownership Week and so that's something we've discussed in the last couple of years. The biggest problem of getting something like that going is having adequate people to participate and make it happen so I think we may be able to do that this year. That will be discussed at the next CIC meeting. But again, in the Public Improvements Committee meeting next week what I would like to talk about is how we as a Council and as a Committee can participate with the acquisition of properties and make a contribution to that effort.

LAWS, CONTRACTS AND CLAIMS, Mr. Peck – When Rodney was talking, something came to mind and this really did not come out of my Committee, but the individual who robbed the bank at Fifth Third, I believe earlier or later of mid last year, this week was put out some very substantial charges and is looking at some very substantial time. Part of that is because of the great work that the Police Dept. did in our community so that's another feather in our cap.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, Mrs. Brickweg – I would like to announce that the Vine Street Business Association will be meeting on Wednesday, February 4th at 5:00 PM in Centennial Hall. One of the items on the agenda will be the discussion of the Ohio Heritage Main Street Program and how local businesses can get involved. All St. Bernard business owners are encouraged to attend.

This past Monday some of you may have seen an article in the Cincinnati Enquirer regarding a casual dining franchise called Rising Roll Gourmet opening up in Blue Ash. The article explained how the new owner is hoping to attract professional workers from the daytime population to a fresh breakfast and lunch. The article also mentioned that the new owner is hoping to open up one or two more locations in the area in the next five years. I decided to contact the new owner and explain the City of St. Bernard and our revitalization efforts. I was unable to contact the owner at the number listed because the restaurant will not open until March. I did however go to the web site for Rising Roll Gourmet and sent an email explaining who I was and what St. Bernard could offer them. I also asked for someone to put me in contact with the Blue Ash owner and for the headquarters to send me franchise information. With the day time population in St. Bernard and the need for more restaurants I think this could be a good fit for us. I will report back when I hear from them.

At last night's CIC meeting Al Kanters updated everyone regarding the NuMaid property and Graeter's. He explained that he is still waiting to hear back from Graeter's regarding their business plans and needs. He also explained that this could take some time for Graeter's to put their plans together. Al stated he has also met with two other business owners to attract them to build on the NuMaid site, but at this time those businesses are afraid

to build new, until they sell their current location. The real estate market is very tough right now but Al said he will continue to work hard to develop the NuMaid property. When the CIC newsletter was discussed last night I was hoping to get a chance to mention something to Al but I sent him an email to day suggesting that not only the idea of putting the newsletter in the calendar going out to the residents that for this up and coming newsletter and future ones that we could put it on the City's web site because that was one of the things that was mentioned is using the internet so basically the CIC could create the newsletter and just put it on there and then the people could go look at it there.

Two other things that I've added since Kevin has spoken is one other thing that was mentioned and Kevin touched on it at the meeting last night was that with the stimulus money that the City could actually purchase and rehab homes and then sell it back to the CIC because the City, basically any profit that the City would make from any of these homes, has to go back into the program. I think when Public Improvement Committee meets next week that really we should consider that because that seemed like a very good idea, and work along with the CIC. That way the City can actually get reimbursed for anything we buy and at the same time we're improving the housing stock.

The only other thing and I don't know if I misunderstood but I did hear Al report about the Imwalle property and the idea of converting, I know the apartment idea is dead but I did not hear that the whole idea of using Imwalle property was. I thought he said he was going to look, or the CIC I should say, was going to look at other options since this property can be used in adjacent to the Canal Bed property as a housing development to use the whole corner block. I'm not sure if I misunderstood, but I thought that's what was said.

Ms. Hausfeld – Can I comment on two things that Peggy just said real quick?

Mr. Walden – That's fine.

Ms. Hausfeld – One thing Peggy, it was mentioned last night at the CIC to put the newsletter in the Calendar and Al is working on that to try to get it for the Calendar's readiness next week or the following week to put it out to the residents. Also, the last thing you mentioned about the Imwalle property. There was a lot of discussion on it but it is discussed in Executive Session so we'll talk to you afterwards about it.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION, Mrs. Bedinghaus – At the COW last week representatives from ODOT gave an update on the I-75 Expansion. There are three main phases.

The Mitchell Ave. Interchange – This acquisition will start Feb., 2009, construction to begin May, 2011 with a completion date of summer 2013. Ludlow Grove Park will be slightly impacted. There will be a 20 foot sound wall that will be installed but the playing field will remain intact.

The next phase will be the Rail Road overpass south of the Norwood Lateral. The acquisition will start in Sept. 2010, construction beginning in March, 2014 with a completion date of Sept. 2015. The Service Garage will need to be relocated as well as the two businesses behind it.

The third phase is I-75 Mainline from Mitchell Ave. to the Norwood Lateral; the acquisition will start in May, 2012, construction in March, 2016 with a completion date of May, 2018. The building still in question during the I-75 expansion is the Fire Dept. How the process works is during the first assessment, if any part of a building would be in the path of the construction, the building gets declared as a “total loss”. This assessment is 40% completed and there is a corner of the basement of the Fire Dept. that falls in the path of the expansion. During the next step of the process another assessment of the Fire Dept. will be done. Decisions at that point will be made to either declare the building a total loss or that it can remain with some renovations and that will be decided at that time. They make the decision based on if the building could still maintain its functionality if renovated and other essential information that they will receive when talking with the City Administration and Fire Chief.

The more detailed report from ODOT can be found in the COW minutes of Jan. 15, 2009.

There will be an Open House Public Meeting on 2/10 from 4-7:00pm in the St. Bernard Municipal Hall.

Mrs. Brickweg – The COW report has been submitted to the Clerk.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE January 15, 2009

NEW OR REFERRED ITEMS:

1. Approved the minutes of the January 8th council meeting.
2. Stefan Spinosa, ODOT District 8 Project Manager, Doug Raters, ODOT District 8 Real Estate Engineer and Dan Frazee, ODOT S/W Region Realty Specialist Manager spoke to council about the I 75 Highway expansion in regards to the possible loss of the Fire Department Building and the Service Garage. They presented council with an update of the entire project and pictures of the possible impact on the buildings. The three main phases of the project that will have impact on St. Bernard are:
 - A. Mitchell Ave. Interchange (right-of-way acquisition to start in February, 2009, construction in May, 2011 with a completion goal of July 2013) This will impact Ludlow Park and Bank Ave. The park will be getting 20 foot sound walls along the highway.
 - B. RR Overpass South of Norwood Lateral (right-of-way acquisition to start in September, 2010, construction in March, 2014 with a completion goal of September, 2015) This will impact the Service Garage. The building and two businesses behind it are projected as a total loss.
 - C. I-75 Mainline from Mitchell Ave. to the Norwood Lateral (right-of-way acquisition to start in May, 2012, construction in March 2016 with a completion goal of May, 2018) The Fire Department building drawings are only 40% complete. Currently the building is listed as a total loss, but that is only as a worst case scenario. When the time comes to determine if it is a total loss or not, ODOT real estate personal will come in and meet with the City and the Fire Chief to discuss what area they need in the basement and what it is used for. ODOT will also review if the basement wall can be re-built. They will look at all scenarios and come up with the best.

They also explained the appraisal process to council. An appraiser will come in and appraise the building; ODOT will then review the appraisal. The owner is then offered fair market value for the property, plus relocation costs. The owner has the option to accept, decline or counter the offer. If an agreement cannot be reached ODOT will then take the property through the eminent domain process.

They explained to council that when they purchase land and buildings, such as the Service Garage, they will raze the structures, level the land and seed it. After the entire project is complete if ODOT does not need the land the city can be given the option to purchase the land at fair market value or sometimes less when it is between government entities.

Stefan announced that there will be an Open House Public Meeting on February 10th from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM in St. Bernard's Municipal Hall. There will be information and displays for the public to view.

3. Al Kanter's the Executive Director of the CIC, briefly reviewed the process for the Heritage Ohio Main Street Program. He explained the resolution and budget the steering committee is asking council for. They are asking the city to pay the \$3,300.00 yearly fee to be in the program and that over the next four years they fund some of the projects not to exceed \$5000.00 in year one, \$10,000.00 in year two, \$100,000.00 in year three and \$250,000.00 in year four. The big projects for years three and four are streetscape. Council voted 7 to 0 to place the resolution on the table for the next council meeting.

Al also informed council that the Fish and Chicken Restaurant located at the corner of Vine and Mitchell should be opening soon. They have had some plumbing issues which the owners of the restaurant have paid to have resolved. The only thing the CIC is paying for is small repairs to the roof, since the CIC is the owner of the building.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS:

Mayor, Bill Burkhardt:

1. Bill passed around the 2009 City Calendar that the City will be distributing to all the residents once the printing is complete. He asked council members to check the information and let him or Elaine know if there are any changes. Bill will provide the calendars to the three at large council members and he asked the ward representatives to help them distribute the calendars to all the residents.
2. Bill asked council to review the legal opinion from Kate Bedinghaus in regards to the City building homes on the Bertus Street Park property. Kate provided the opinion that it is legal to build there. It will be placed on the agenda for the January 29th council meeting and Bill will announce it next week so all the citizens will be informed about the discussion.

Auditor, Walt St. Clair: Walt explained that he handed out the city's investment reports this week, because he may not be able to attend next week's council meeting. He also asked councils permission to pay invoices from 2008 that he received in 2009. Council approved this 7 to 0.

Law Director, Kate Bedinghaus: no report

Safety Director, Rodney Chatman: Rodney announced that he will be holding a Block Watch – Citizens on Patrol meeting before the January 22nd council meeting at 6:45 PM for those interested in participating in the program. He also thanked the Police Department for all their hard efforts with the recent increase in crime.

Service Director, Phil Stegman:

1. Phil and Walt Moeller discussed the need for generators at the Service Garage, Municipal Building and City Hall. They are currently looking for a used generator in a trailer that can be moved about the City for the Service Garage. This will provide multiple uses and since we will most likely be losing the garage it can move to the new location. They are also pricing new and used generators for the Municipal Hall and City Hall. The prices vary from \$17,400.00 to

2. Phil asked council to make an additional appropriation of \$24,767.65 to the Park Maintenance line item. This money is from an insurance check the city received in late December for city property damage from the September storms. So it will appear as an additional appropriation but was put in the account at the end of 2008. This money will be used to repair a backstop and downed pole at the Ross Avenue Park.

Tax Commissioner, Ed Geiser:

1. Ed informed council that his department is getting very busy with the start of tax season and he is using his temporary employee money to have additional help since an Assistant Tax Commissioner has not been hired yet. In the future he may need to transfer money from the assistant's line item to pay for temporary help. Ed also explained that he is working on getting the online tax return information up and running and Greg suggested that in the future the city may want to have a computer for the public to use at City Hall so people can go there and do their tax returns on line.
2. Ed informed council that he will continue his work on changing the City's tax ordinance after this tax season, sometime in June. Peggy informed Ed that when she was cleaning out some of her files she came across proposed changes that the former Tax Commissioner had suggested for the ordinance. Peggy will bring these papers in for Ed to use.

Treasurer, Jamie Sipe: no report

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Laws, Contracts and & Claims, Mike Peck: no report

Public Improvements, Kevin Meier: Kevin reported that he read an article in the Thursday's Cincinnati Enquirer regarding Springfield Township stating the way to keep Section 8 housing out of an area is to properly maintain the housing stock and the City needs to start working on that.

Business & Industry, Peggy Brickweg: Peggy thanked Phil and Gerry for their help in dealing with some problems in the City that she received complaints on. She also thanked Phil for looking into repairing Heger and Chalet Streets which are falling apart.

Safety, Patty Hausfeld: Patty thanked Phil for the placement of the Erie Canal road sign. She also reminded everyone to take care of their pets during the cold season. She stated that employees from the SCPA had been into her work telling her stories of animal cruelty.

Highways & Transportation, Cindi Bedinghaus: no report

Service, Don Tobergte: Don asked councils opinions on having the city advertise for all non-elected city positions. Don and Peggy were in favor of this, but Greg and Bill stated they were not. Mayor Burkhardt explained that he looks over credentials very closely. Peggy stated since this is an administrative decision she suggest that they consider advertising for non-elected city positions so they can get a larger range of people to chose from.

Finance, Greg Zix: Greg asked Ed how council can assist him with legislation to help him enforce tax codes. Ed explained that he will be attending a seminar next week with Chief Moeller to learn about ways to use Mayor's Court to enforce tax ordinances.

Audience Participation: Phil was asked about the arborist coming to the City next week. He explained that for the cost of \$25.00 the arborist will come look at a tree and let the payee know if the tree needs to be removed or not. This person will not be cutting down any trees that day.

Ordinances and Resolutions for the next council meeting:

1. Resolution for Heritage Ohio Main Street Program
2. Ordinance to appropriate insurance funds to the Park Maintenance line item

Next Council Meeting: January 22nd 7:30 P.M.

Next C.O.W. Meeting: January 29th 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Brickweg,
President of Council Pro-Tem

COMMUNICATIONS

Dear Ms. Carberry,

This thank you card is long overdue, but I wanted the Civil Service Commission, and you, to know how appreciative I am for your time in answering my questions about my renewal from the eligibility list for the position of police officer. I am still pursuing this career and the information you guys gave me has helped me quite a bit.

I hope things in St. Bernard are going well and the New Year finds you all in good health and good spirit.

Please let the Commission know how appreciative I am for their time. Good luck in the New Year personally and professionally.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Wolfe

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Ms. Hausfeld to receive and file the communication and give a copy to the Police Dept. and the Civil Service Dept. Motion passed 7-0.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mr. Meier to read this evenings' Resolutions by title only. Motion passed 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2009. A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO MAIN STREET PROGRAM TO BECOME AN OFFICIAL OHIO MAIN STREET COMMUNITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to suspend with the second and third reading of Resolution No. , 2009.

REMARKS

Mrs. Brickweg – The one reason I mentioned to have this go emergency is, this needs to go along with the application that the CIC is sending to the

Ohio Heritage Main Street Program which is due in February. Basically this Resolution is just to say that the City does support it. It also does list some money in it and what it is listing is what we have said before; \$5,000 the first year, \$10,000 the second, \$100,000 the third and \$250,000 the fourth. The bigger numbers of \$100,000 and \$250,000 are basically what will be used for streetscape. I've always said in the past that we're going to have to invest in our City to fix it up. This is basically just saying that the City will support that up to these amounts, but it will then therefore have to be voted on in a budget though because this Council cannot say what money is going to be spent in four years. We're putting this in a Resolution basically to show the Program, who is considering us for this, that we're going to put money in this Program and that we really support it.

The motion to suspend passed 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brickweg, seconded by Mr. Tobergte to adopt Resolution No., 2009 as read. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Tobergte – On Tuesday February the 3rd there will be a special election in St. Bernard concerning a School Tax levy renewal. I would urge all residents to exercise their right to vote.

Mrs. Brickweg – I just received this email late, a little bit before this meeting started, from David Pepper and I'm not sure if there are many residents that could actually participate in this program but he was asking that we let the citizens know this is something new in the County.

Dear Community Leaders,

Today, as part of our overall economic recovery strategy, the County launched an exciting new program aimed at reducing prescription drug cost for Hamilton County residents. The Hamilton County Drug Discount Card can save residents an average of 20% or more on prescription drugs. This program is ideal for residents without health insurance, prescription drugs not covered by insurance, and prescription medicine for pets.

This program is part of our broader economic recovery strategy. Big picture, if residents are so squeezed that they can hardly afford bare essential like medicine and energy, they will spend on little else – and our economy will suffer. If we lower the costs of those bare essentials, as we are doing by offering this prescription drug card, we are putting precious dollars back in their pockets, and ultimately into the economy.

We are encouraging all community leaders who are interested to supply these cards at your town halls, recreation centers, administration buildings, and anywhere else in your community where you think people can access them. The cards will also be available at public libraries, YMCAs and through social service providers throughout the County. To learn more about the prescription drug card program or to order cards to distribute for

you community, please visit our prescription drug card website
<http://www.hamiltoncountyrx.com/>.

You can also email me directly if you have questions, or want to request cards and other distribution materials.

David Pepper

AUDIENCE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None.

Mrs. Brickweg – The next COW meeting will be Thursday, January 29th at 7:30.

Mr. Walden – At this time Council will go into Executive Session.

Mr. Walden – The January 22, 2009 meeting of the St. Bernard City Council is back in session. Council was in Executive Session discussing the possible purchase of property.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mr. Meier to allow Mr. Wiedmann to purchase the three properties discussed in Executive Session. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Mr. Tobergte, seconded by Mrs. Brickweg to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.